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No. 18

June 16, 1999

## S. 1206 – Legislative Branch Appropriations, FY 2000

Calendar No. 151

Reported as an original bill from the Committee on Appropriations, June 10, 1999, without amendment, by a vote of 28-0. S. Rept. 106-75.

### NOTEWORTHY

- S. 1206 appropriates \$1.68 billion in new budget authority for the legislative branch, exclusive of House items, for FY 2000. This amount is \$114 million below FY 1999, and \$104.5 million below the President's budget request. [See chart attached to this *Notice*.]
- The bill includes \$489.4 million for Senate expenses, which is \$14.5 million more than last year but \$28 million below the budget estimate. Senate operational expense accounts include a 3-percent increase.
- The House of Representatives passed its legislative branch funding bill, H.R. 1905, on June 10, by a vote of 214 to 197. That bill, which totaled \$1.86 billion, contains \$740 million for House operations, and is now on the Senate Calendar.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Senate Items:

- Senate items total \$489,406,000, an increase of \$14.5 million over the FY99 level.

- The bill increases funding for the operations division of the Sergeant at Arms from \$58.3 million to \$63.3 million. This division provides most of the day-to-day services and products of the Sergeant at Arms.
- It also increases funding for inquiries and investigations by all Senate standing, special, and select committees from \$66.8 million to \$71.6 million.
- A funding level of \$7.6 million has been provided for Member offices.
- The bill authorizes, subject to the approval of the President pro tempore of the Senate, a Deputy Legislative Counsel.
- It reauthorizes the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control through September 30, 1999, providing \$370,000 for this purpose (same level as last year).

#### **Architect of the Capitol:**

- Last year \$100 million was appropriated for the planning, engineering, design, and construction of the Capitol Visitors Center, but no additional funding was requested this year.

#### **Joint Committee on the Library:**

- The bill provides \$500,000 for the Joint Committee on the Library. Last year no funds were provided.

#### **Capitol Police:**

- The bill provides \$80.8 million for salaries, an increase of \$3.9 million. It also provides \$7.9 million for expenses, an increase of \$1.7 million, an amount which provides for the transfer of Capitol Police computer and telecommunications functions from the Senate Sergeant at Arms to the Capitol Police pending the development of a plan to ensure that these funds are used in a cost-effective manner.

#### **General Provisions:**

- The bill extends the availability of funds for the life of the Trade Deficit Review Commission which was created last year to conduct a comprehensive review of U.S. trade and economic policies and their relationship to trade deficits.

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## BILL PROVISIONS

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### Congressional Operations, Title I

The total appropriation for Title I (which does not include House funding) is \$932.6 million; this is \$158.6 million less than FY 1999 and \$81.4 million less than the budget request.

**Senate Operations:** Total appropriation is \$489.4 million, an amount which is \$14.5 million above FY 1999 and \$28.2 million below the request, including:

- \$89.97 million for salaries of officers and employees of the Senate. This is an increase of \$2.7 million above FY 1999 and \$2.5 million below the request.
- \$245.7 million for the salaries of Senators' staffs as well as for office expense accounts, \$6.5 million above the request and \$12 million less than FY 1999. This funding level is sufficient to finance a 3-percent cost-of-living adjustment for Senate staff (at the discretion of each Senator). A chart in the Committee report (page 21) shows that Senators' total staff level is lower than it has been in more than a decade. *Note: The bill does not include any provisions relating to COLAs for Senators. Congress typically would address this matter in the Treasury and General Government appropriations bill [not yet reported], not in the Legislative Branch bill.*
- \$71.6 million for inquiries and investigations by all standing, special and select committees, \$4.8 million above last year.
- \$66.3 million for expenses of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, which is \$5.8 million above last year and \$13.6 million below the request.
- \$14.2 million for salaries (\$508,000 over last year) and \$1.5 million for expenses (the same as last year) for the Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

**House Operations:** Since this is a Senate-originated bill, it excludes a total for House operations. However, the House-passed bill provides \$740 million for House operations in FY 2000.

**Architect of the Capitol:** The bill provides \$162.9 million (which is \$79.2 million less than FY 1999 and \$47.2 million less than requested) for the accounts contained in Title I, including salaries, Capitol buildings and grounds, the Senate office buildings, and the Capitol power plant. Additional funds are recommended in Title II for the Architect's activities relative to the structural and mechanical care of the Library's buildings and grounds, and the Botanic Garden. The request includes funding for a number of design projects for the Capitol Police, including a master plan and additional security items.

- Directs that no new Senate projects or activities other than those listed in the Committee Report (page 26) be undertaken with funds provided in this or previous appropriations acts without the prior written approval of the Committee, and that the Committee be notified in writing in advance of any new Senate projects or activities to be undertaken with the funds provided for annual maintenance, repairs, or miscellaneous improvements.

**Congressional Research Service:** The Library of Congress's research arm receives \$71.2 million for salaries and expenses, which is an increase of \$4.1 million above FY 1999. [See separate funding for the Library of Congress under Title II, below.]

**Government Printing Office:** The bill provides \$77.7 million for congressional printing and binding (\$4.5 million below the request and \$3.2 million above the current year).

## Other Agencies, Title II

Total appropriations in Title II amount to \$746.5 million, \$44.7 million more than FY 1999 and \$23.1 million less than requested, including:

- **Botanic Garden:** The bill appropriates \$3.4 million, which is \$376,000 above last year and \$544,000 below the budget request. The Committee did not fund the requested \$100,000 for Bartholdi Park renovations and improvements, the requested \$56,000 for equipment replacement at the production facility, or the requested \$225,000 for equipment and startup costs for the Conservatory and National Garden.
- **Library of Congress:** An amount of \$308.4 million total is provided, including \$243 million in salaries and expenses (this excludes the funds for the Congressional Research Service provided in Title I). The total amount is \$11.9 million above FY 1999, but \$3.99 million below the request, and includes \$48 million for salaries and expenses of Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and \$5.4 million for Library furniture and furnishings.
- **Architect of the Capitol:** The bill provides \$17.3 million for the Architect of the Capitol for maintenance of the Library's buildings and grounds, and for the Congressional Cemetery (an increase of \$3.7 million over last year's level and \$2.5 million less than requested).
- **General Accounting Office:** \$382.3 million for salaries and expenses of the General Accounting Office, an increase of \$23 million over last year and a decrease of \$4.8 million below the request. Of the total amount, \$1.4 million is authorized in offsetting collections.
- **Government Printing Office:** The bill provides \$35 million in this title (in addition to the amount for congressional printing and binding, contained in Title I).

## **COST**

The Congressional Budget Office estimates the bill would result in \$1.68 billion in budget authority (BA) and \$1.75 billion in outlays (excluding \$94 million in mandatory BA and outlays). These amounts do not include the costs associated with the House items.

Staff Contact: Judy Myers, 224-2946  
Attached: chart summary

# SUMMARY OF THE BILL

[In thousands of dollars]

Department or agency	1999 appropriation	Budget estimates, 2000	Committee recommendation	Senate bill compared with—	
				1999 appropriation	Budget estimates, 2000
TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS					
Senate .....	474,891	517,580	489,406	+ 14,515	– 28,174
Joint Items .....	204,916	103,995	103,116	– 101,800	– 879
Office of Compliance .....	2,086	2,076	2,000	– 86	– 76
Congressional Budget Office .....	25,671	26,821	26,221	+ 550	– 600
Architect of the Capitol .....	242,047	210,041	162,866	– 79,181	– 47,175
Library of Congress: Congressional Research Service .....	67,124	71,255	71,244	+ 4,120	– 11
Congressional printing and binding, Government Printing Office .....	74,465	82,214	77,704	+ 3,239	– 4,510
Total, title I, Congressional operations .....	1,091,200	1,013,982	932,557	– 158,643	– 81,425
TITLE II—OTHER AGENCIES					
Botanic Garden .....	3,052	3,972	3,428	+ 376	– 544
Library of Congress (except CRS) .....	296,516	312,408	308,414	+ 11,898	– 3,994
Architect of the Capitol (Congressional Cemetery and Library buildings and grounds) .....	13,672	19,871	17,327	+ 3,655	– 2,544
Government Printing Office including revolving fund (except congressional printing and binding) .....	29,264	46,245	34,986	+ 5,722	– 11,259
General Accounting Office .....	359,268	387,048	382,298	+ 23,030	– 4,750
Total, title II, Other agencies .....	701,772	769,544	746,453	+ 44,681	– 23,091
Grand total .....	1,792,972	1,783,526	1,679,010	– 113,962	– 104,516